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Letter dated 12 September 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the intention of the Russian occupation administration in the temporarily occupied territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine to hold so-called "early elections" (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34 (a), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 12 September 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the intention of the Russian occupation administration in the temporarily occupied territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine to hold so-called "early elections"

7 September 2018

Due to the reports in Russia's media outlets about the intentions of the Russian occupation administration in the temporarily occupied territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine to hold the so-called "early elections" of armed gangs' leaders and their illegitimate representative bodies, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine emphasizes that such actions of the Kremlin grossly violate the obligations of the Russian Federation as a party to the Minsk Agreements.

In case of conducting fake "early elections" their results will be null and void, will not create any legal consequences and will not be recognized either by Ukraine or the international community.

These provocative actions of Russia deliberately undermine the Minsk Agreements and can bring to naught the persistent international efforts to resolve the situation that arose as a result of Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine and its occupation of part of the sovereign territory of our state.

The Russian Federation holds full responsibility for consistent blocking and undermining of the peace settlement.

We call on our international partners to give a clear assessment of such actions by the Kremlin and to increase political and diplomatic pressure on the Russian Federation, including by imposing additional sanctions against it to make it return to fulfilling its obligations.

In its turn Ukraine remains committed to a peaceful settlement of the situation in Donbas on the basis of the Minsk Agreements.